

## DANIEL BAIRD

Daniel Baird was born in Greenock, Undercrescent, Scotland, on 31 July 1856. He was the son of Robert Baird and Jane Cumming Baird. His parents were members of the Catholic Church and about 1862 they joined the Mormon Church. They decided to come to America. On May 10, 1863, they, along

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with 900 other immigrants, embarked on the ship, "Sunny Shore" at Liverpool, England. They were eight weeks and five days on the ocean. Their food consisted of potatoes, flour, salt, beef, salt pork, split peas, and rice, all rationed out to the families.

Daniel Baird was six years old and had a brother Robert, two years older than himself. Before long these two boys discovered a board missing in the partition between their bunk and the ship store room. They would crawl through the opening, and help themselves to raisins, sweet crackers, etc, which they could fill their pockets with and crawl back into their bunk and enjoy feasting upon their plunder.

His folks moved to Heber City, and the year of the grasshoppers the family lived for six weeks on bran and split peas. One good neighbor had a cow and he would give the children milk to drink. Daniel had various jobs when school was over and when a young man he hauled wood to Salt Lake City.

At one time Bishop Abram Hatch called for volunteers to go and survey south from Provo River. Daniel was one of 30 men who dug a trench, or ditch one foot wide and one half mile long to prove the surveyor's ability. They then built the Wasatch Canal in 1876. The canal was completed and provided irrigation water for many of the settlers in the valley. It was made larger as time went on. Daniel was a trustee for eighteen years and was then elected President of the Irrigation Co.

He met and married Mary Alice Barnes who was a daughter of Richard Barnes and Alice Howarth. To them eight children were born: Rolland, Daniel Avery, Richard, Rhea, Myrtle, Bessy, Seth, Thelma.

He acted as president of the Wasatch Irrigation Co. until 1912 when he moved to Albion, Idaho, with his family where he purchased a farm and raised cattle. He acted on the school board of trustees for a number of years; also supervised the construction and maintenance of the roads in the Albion highway district. On 11 May 1949 he died and he was buried in Heber City, Utah.